

Official Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force - Citizens Serving Communities: Above and Beyond

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## **WING TIPS**



• <u>SDWG CADET WINS NATIONAL ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP</u>: Not long ago Cadet Major Brandon West of Sioux Falls, a member of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, received a letter from CAP's National Commander Maj Gen Joseph Vazquez.

The letter reads in part: "Congratulations! I am pleased to let you know you have been selected to receive a 2017 Civil Air Patrol Scholarship, and I commend you on your superior performance as a student, citizen and Civil Air Patrol member. Because of your outstanding efforts, you are selected to receive a Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Academic Scholarship."

• <u>AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS</u>: SDWG flew 22 aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife over 10 days in April in support of the Department of Game, Fish & Parks and South Dakota State University. The result was 50.7 hours flying over western South Dakota/Black Hills and 2.4 hours flying over eastern South Dakota for a total of 53.1 flight hours. CAP pilots were: Lt. Col. Gary Hewett, 11 sorties; Lt. Col. Albert Trumble, 7 sorties; Capt. Neil Schmid, one sortie; Capt. Joshua Hall, one sortie; and Lt. Col. Craig Goodrich, two sorties.

Each month the Skychaser reports the statistical data for the aerial wildlife surveys carried out by SDWG as part of on-going research projects by South Dakota State University (SDSU) and the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks (GF&P). SDSU surveys elk, bobcats and big horn sheep while GF&P surveys deer, mountain goats, mountain lions, and elk. Depending on whom the sortie supported the pilot was accompanied by a representative from SDSU or from GF&P onboard the CAP aircraft as they fly over western and eastern South Dakota. In many cases the survey sorties are visual with the researcher keeping tally of the condition,

location and number of whichever animal is being tracked. Some of the animals being tracked wear radiotelemetry collars which report much the same information. For this type of sortie a modified CAP aircraft is used with special external radio-telemetry antennas mounted midway up the wing strut on both sides of the aircraft. Wiring feeds the telemetry signal into a box in the cockpit that connects to a telemetry collection device operated by the researcher.







LEFT: RADIO-TELEMETRY COLLECTION ANTENNA ON THE RIGHT WING STRUT. THERE IS A MATCHING ANTENNA ON THE LEFT SIDE CENTER: RADIO-TELEMETRY SIGNALS RELAY BOX IN THE COCKPIT

RIGHT: GF&P INTERN KAILEY ANDERSON ON A SURVEY SORTIE ON 14 APRIL OPERATING THE SIGNALS RECORDING DEVICE

In the first four months of this year 147 animal wildlife survey sorties have been flown.

## **STAFF NOTES**



### **WING COMMANDER**

Col. David Small Jr., CAP

• <u>WING COMPLIANCE INSPECTION</u>: Our Wing Compliance Inspection (CI) was completed on Sunday, 30 April. Overall we performed very well and received a rating of "Effective". The CI team complimented us on our very professional staff and our well-run program. I want to thank all the staff for contributing to a great Wing and for their extra effort in preparing for the CI. Also thanks to Col. John Seten for passing on the Wing in great condition. This CI covered a four year period so much of the success reflects on John and his staff.



WING STAFF AND USAF COMPLIANCE INSPECTION TEAM

- <u>WING CONFERENCE RECAP</u>: Thank you to all who spent a beautiful spring weekend in Oacoma at the 2017 South Dakota Wing Conference. We had over 90 participants. All breakout sessions were well attended and several members told me they wish that there had been more time so that they didn't have to pick between interesting topics. Thank you to all of the presenters. We also had a good turnout of enthusiastic cadets who had a full, fun schedule. A special thank you to our friends in the North Central Region and CAP-USAF for coming. Your presence really added to the overall conference, you are now part of the South Dakota Wing family; Col. Tom Theis and Chaplain Don Mikkita from NCR, Mr. Greg Maier (CAP-USAF NCR LRO), Maj. Caleb Cristopherson (USAF RES) and Lt. Col. Matt Davis (USAF).
- <u>NEW WING STAFFER</u>: Please join me in welcoming Lt. Col. Ron Evenson as the South Dakota Wing Counterdrug officer. SDWG has not participated in counterdrug missions for the past several years but it is important that we have a staff member who understands those missions. I'm sure Lt. Col. Evenson will help us all better understand what counterdrug activities CAP can participate in.
- <u>2017 CAP NATIONAL CONFERENCE</u>: The 2017 CAP National Conference Early Bird Registration is open! The theme for the National Conference will be 75th Anniversary of Cadet Programs. The conference is at the Marriott Rivercenter in San Antonio, TX, 31 August 2 September. Register by midnight 18 June to take advantage of discounted early conference registration of only \$105. Ten workshops are being offered o 28-31 August, more than 50 learning labs will be presented on September 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Space is limited, so register early. Please visit the 2017 National Conference Facebook event page for the most up to date conference information and let us know you are planning to join us in San Antonio. Our official hashtag is #CAPNC17. FYI Let me know if you have an interest in going. Depending on budget there might be some wing funds to help pay for this.
- <u>USAF ONE AIR FORCE AWARD</u>: USAF Seeks 2017 Gen. Mark A. Welsh III "One Air Force Award" submissions: This Air Force-level award, which recognizes mission success achieved by a team of two or more Total Force components, will be presented to the top team that demonstrates improved effectiveness, operational readiness or mission accomplishment through integrated solutions. Active-duty, Guard, Reserve, Civil Air Patrol, or Department of Defense civilians from major commands and direct reporting units may nominate an integrated team for consideration. To be considered, award packages must justify the team's best practices and explain how the procedures would be limited if performed by a single component, how the team shared resources to achieve mission success, and how the process or procedure reduced barriers while maximizing the strengths of each component. The nomination period for the award must include contributions performed between May 1, 2016 and April 30, 2017. Specific eligibility and application procedures are available via myPers. Select "any" from the dropdown menu and search "Welsh."



### **WING CHIEF OF STAFF**

Maj. Nick Gengler, CAP

• <u>UPCOMING EVENTS</u>: Here are a few upcoming events that you will want to mark on your calendar.

<u>26-28 May</u> – SDWG Cadet Leadership Academy in Pierre. Sign up here: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2017-sd-wing-cadet-leadership-school-tickets-33971035281">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2017-sd-wing-cadet-leadership-school-tickets-33971035281</a>

<u>8-16 July</u> – Joint Dakota Cadet Leadership Encampment (JDCLE) to be held at Camp Rapid Army National Guard Base in Rapid City. Capt. Mike Johnson is the encampment commander. Contact him at <u>Michael.johnson@sdcap.us</u> for

info. Encampment registration is now open! Check out the registration page here: <a href="www.eventbrite.com/e/joint-dakota-encampment-2017-tickets-31603041548">www.eventbrite.com/e/joint-dakota-encampment-2017-tickets-31603041548</a>. Early bird registration goes until May 31. Keep an eye on the registration page as time gets closer for updates and packing lists. There will be a First-Year course and an Advanced course for those that have been to an Encampment before that still want to challenge themselves and receive advanced training. Cadets, remember to work with your Squadron Commanders on a transportation plan to get to and from Encampment. Don't forget about Scholarships! Check out the Cadet Encampment Assistance Program in Eservices for first year attendees. For returning attendees and staff, check out the Wing scholarships here:<a href="www.sdcap.us/scholarships">www.sdcap.us/scholarships</a>. Finally check out the Joint Dakota Encampment Facebook page for continuing updates: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/CAPJDE/">https://www.facebook.com/CAPJDE/</a>



### **WING DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Lt. Col. Bruce Kipp, CAP

- From Julie DeBardelaben, NHQ Deputy Director of Public Affairs: Our new nationwide Civil Air Patrol Newsroom is up and running on the web at <a href="www.CAP.news">www.CAP.news</a>! This self-publishing management platform makes it easier to tell our stories through a simple, yet powerful, online tool. Stories can be viewed with ease on any device and shared to personal social media channels with the click of a button. Content is automatically distributed on official social media channels when published and can be sent out through tagged RSS feeds. Information formerly posted on CAPVolunteerNow.com is now posted on CAP.news. Also, publication of *Civil Air Patrol Volunteer* magazine is now biannual— in the spring and the fall. The magazine will be available on CAP.news. CAP.news is an external marketing website designed to raise awareness of the great things our Airmen do for the citizens of our nation and to solidify CAP's brand image. CAPMembers.com continues to serve as an internal communications website for members, and GoCivilAirPatrol.com continues to serve as CAP's recruitment website. Your ideas and input on ways to maximize use of this new website are welcomed!
- The next issue of the South Dakota Wing Roundup magazine is due to the printers on 23 June. Anyone, cadet or senior member, can submit one or more articles for the magazine. A successful magazine usually has 13-16 articles. Please let me know if you plan to submit an article *before* you start writing so I can prevent duplication of effort. The deadline for your article(s) to me is not later than 10 June so I have time to review it and edit it if needed. The South Dakota Wing Roundup magazine is a money-maker for the Wing that helps pay for Wing activities and scholarships.

## **SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS**

### **CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)**

(Item submitted by Capt. Bierwirth)

• <u>K9 VISIT</u>: Pennington County Deputy Sheriff Ted Cox visited us and demonstrated the use of a K-9 dog in the detection of drugs and in capturing criminals. He also showed us tricks of the trade in training the dogs. We even got to try on some of the protective training material.

## **LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-063, SPEARFISH)**

(Item and photos submitted by Lt. Col. Hopewell)

• <u>FLIGHT SIMULATION</u>: Spearfish to Los Angeles to downtown Las Vegas and back - in less than 2 hours. That was the adventure experienced by cadets and seniors of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron at their regular meeting 6 April. This exploit was courtesy of a visit to the Black Hills airport campus of LMCS by

the flight mobile simulator of South Dakota State University (SDSU) which is configured with a G1000 on the panel of a Cessna-182, a common SDWG aircraft. State Aerospace Education pooh-bah Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese collaborated with SDSU Assistant Professor of Aviation, Cody Christensen, (also a CAP Captain with the Big Sioux Composite Squadron) to facilitate the visit. The trailer-contained simulator was in the West River area on behalf of SDSU, and in fact stopped at Spearfish High School the following day. It was a memorable AE happening for the several cadets who participated in the "flight," superbly guided by Capt. Christensen.





### PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-038, PIERRE)

(Items and photos submitted by Lt. Col. Gatje and Col. Donley)

• <u>WOMEN IN SCIENCE EXPO</u>: The city of Pierre, SD and the South Dakota Discovery Center hosted the "Women in Science Conference" on 18 April. About 250 female students from middle and high schools within 100 mile radius attended. The goal of the event was to introduce young female students to various science careers available to them. The day started out with a very inspirational talk by Holly Hoffman. Holly, a lifelong resident of Eureka, SD, was a "final four" contestant on Season 21 of "Survivor". She spent the hour encouraging the young women to overcome challenges, face their fears and live up to their potential! The Pierre Composite Squadron had a booth there to attract and educate the young ladies about aviation and aerospace opportunities that Civil Air Patrol has to offer them. Lt. Col. Myra Christensen and Capt. Marsha Sumpter answered the young ladies questions and explained the CAP Cadet Program. Col Mary Donley assisted them. The attendees had many STEM-related seminars to attend and booths such as the CAP booth where we spoke about aerospace and flying with a lot of young ladies who stopped by to see what we were about.



• <u>PIERRE AVIATION DAY</u>: The squadron is co-sponsoring Pierre Aviation Day to be held on Saturday, 13 May from 0900 to 1200. Squadron Commander Capt. Jon Becker has been a major force in arranging this event. It will be held at the Mustang Aviation ramp at Pierre Municipal Airport. Local Civil Air Patrol personnel will be on hand to show CAP aircraft in static display, to explain the CAP program and show STEM projects from CAP. Other sponsors will have displays to include Young Eagles with introductory flights for those ages 8 – 17, EAA aircraft, air ambulances aircraft from both major health care facilities on the ground, crop sprayers, and Army Helicopters. All Civil Air Patrol personnel are invited to attend if possible.

### **RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-031, RAPID CITY)**

(Item and photos submitted by Capt. Johnson and Col. Donley)

• <u>SQUADRON LEADERSHIP SCHOOL</u>: On 29 April, six members from two different squadrons attended a Squadron Leadership School (SLS) held in the Rushmore Composite Squadron Headquarters. SLS is part of Level II of the Senior Member Professional Development Program. It focuses on what members need to do in order to be an integral part of the squadron. The course was directed by Col. Mary Donley who led several of the sessions. Also helping to instruct was Wing Staff members Col. Mike Beason and Maj. William Collister, Squadron Commander of Lookout Mountain Squadron in Spearfish.



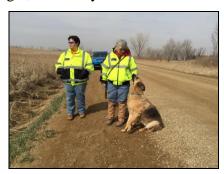
COL. DONLEY LEADS A DISCUSSION SESSION DURING THE SQUADRON LEADERSHIP SCHOOL

## SIOUX FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-050, SIOUX FALLS)

(Items and photos submitted by 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. M. Klosterman and Maj. Epp)

- <u>WELCOME ABOARD</u>: Please welcome new senior members Amy Willison and Charlene Huntington to our squadron! Both have had or have sons in the squadron so they know what they are getting into. We now have 95 total members, 59 seniors and 36 cadets. Maj. Epp's goal is 100 active members by June 2020 when his term of command ends.
- <u>PRAIRIE DOGS SAR</u>: On 8 April, the squadron hosted a unique experience at our mini-Search and Rescue Exercise (SAREX). Three Prairie Dogs Search and Rescue (PDSAR) teams joined our ground teams in search of a missing pilot. The scenario was an aircraft filed a flight plan from Rapid City Regional Airport to Lincoln County Airport. The last radio communication with the pilot indicated he was just west of Hartford. The Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) reported that crossing airliners noted an Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) active three miles west of Harrisburg and one mile southwest of Sioux Falls. After discovering the crash site the pilot was not in the immediate area. The squadron asked Prairie Dogs SAR of Sioux Falls to assist in locating the pilot. Our ground team worked with the handlers and their dogs to locate the

pilot whom they found in a nearby neighborhood of Tea. We thank the teams from Prairie Dogs SAR for joining us - K9 Mya and her Handler Ms. Terri White who are certified in Tracking, Area and Article Search, K9 Trixie and her Handler Ms. Jessica Marquardt who are certified in Human Remains Detection, and K9 Blue and his Handler Ms. Sami Jo who are certified in Tracking. Prairie Dog SAR has K9 teams in Sioux Falls, Canistota, Salem and Harrisburg. They provide K9 teams to Law Enforcement, Emergency Management, Fire Departments or other official search agencies for search and rescue of lost, trapped or incapacitated subjects, day or night, under any and all circumstances where dogs and searchers can operate safely and efficiently.







• <u>COLOR GUARD ON ICE</u>: On 8 April, at the last game of the season for the Sioux Falls Stampede Hockey Club at the Denny Sanford Premier Center the squadron's color guard presented the colors during the national anthem. It was a challenge to perform on ice. The Color Guard consisted of C/2dLts Jaden Roblewsky and Josiah Huntington, C/TSgt David Willison, C/SSgt Peter Willison, and C/A1C Jacob Roth.



## $\star\star$ Promotions $\star\star$

### **Cadet Officer Promotions**



Congratulations to Bradley Blansett, to Jared Doyle, and to Levi Woodard all of Rapid City and all three members of the Rushmore Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Captain and receipt of the milestone Amelia Earhart Award!



### **Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions**



Congratulations to Jacob Lawrence of Ellsworth AFB and member of Rushmore Composite Squadron and to Christopher Schuppan of Sioux Falls and member of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on their promotion to Cadet Senior Master Sergeant and receipt of the General Jimmy Doolittle Award!



Congratulations to David Willison of Sioux Falls and member of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Master Sergeant and receipt of the Charles Lindbergh Award!





Congratulations to Caleb Hofer of Hendricks, MN, and member of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings on his promotion to Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!



### **Cadet Airman Promotions**



Congratulations to Luke Thompson of Brookings and member of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings on promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Airman and receipt of the Mary Feik Award!





Congratulations to Thomas Friedrich of Spearfish and member of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron in Spearfish on promotion Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the Gen. Arnold Award!





Congratulations to Nolan Rohl of Brookings, a member of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman and receipt of the General J.F. Curry Award!



## $\star\star$ KUDOS $\star\star$



Congratulations to 2nd Lt. Mimi Klosterman of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron who has been appointed Assistant Deputy Commander for Seniors!



Congratulations to C/2dLt Jaden Petersen of Brookings, a member of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron, who has been awarded a \$500 scholarship to be used for his NCSA Air Force Pararescue/Survival Orientation Course!



Congratulations to Colonel Mary Donley on attaining the awesome achievement of 50 years of service to CAP! Mary joined CAP as a cadet way back in 1967. In addition to the badge, she is now entitled to wear the numeral "50" on her membership ribbon.



Congratulations to former SDWG Cadet Captain Devon Brown of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron who, on taking the oath of enlistment in the U.S. Navy, has become Seaman Recruit Devon Brown! He will attend basic training at Great Lakes Naval Training Center near Chicago, IL. His papa, Navy retiree Vinnie Brown of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron couldn't be more proud of his son's continuation of the family tradition of naval service.



Congratulations to the below listed individuals who received an award at the recent Wing Conference!

#### **Civil Air Patrol Achievement Award**

SM Pamela Baybridge (Sioux Falls), Sioux Falls Composite Squadron C/1<sup>st</sup> Lt Kyle Clement (Sioux Falls), Sioux Falls Composite Squadron Capt. Ashley Ehret (West Fargo, ND), Sioux Falls Composite Squadron SM Duncan Keirnes (Sioux Falls), Sioux Falls Composite Squadron 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Maria Klosterman (Brandon), Sioux Falls Composite Squadron C/CMSgt Julia Lair (Sioux Falls), Sioux Falls Composite Squadron Lt. Col. Gary Rae (Harrisburg), South Dakota Wing Chaplain

### **Commanders Commendation**

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Denise Clement (Sioux Falls), Sioux Falls Composite Squadron Capt. Ashley Ehret (West Fargo, ND), Sioux Falls Composite Squadron Lt. Col. Gary King (Aberdeen), South Dakota Wing Assistant Inspector General 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Maria Klosterman (Brandon), Sioux Falls Composite Squadron C/TSgt Chase Lucas (Brookings), Big Sioux Composite Squadron C/2d Lt Jason Roblewsky (Sioux Falls), Sioux Falls Composite Squadron

#### 2016 Senior Member of the Year

Maj. Nick Gengler (Beresford), South Dakota Wing Chief of Staff!

#### 2016 Cadet of the Year

C/2d Lt Jaden Peterson (Brookings), Big Sioux Composite Squadron!

### 2016 Drug Demand Reduction Member of the Year

Capt. Kris Bierwirth, Crazy Horse Composite Squadron

### **2016 Brewer Memorial Aerospace Award - Cadet**

C/1<sup>st</sup> Lt Kyle Clement (Sioux Falls), Sioux Falls Composite Squadron

#### 2016 Ed Lewis Incident Staff Member of the Year

Lt. Col. Craig Goodrich (Rapid City), Wing Director of Operations

### 2016 Col. (Bud) Payton Public Affairs Officer of the Year - South Dakota Wing

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Zimmerman, Dana Zimmerman

#### 2016 North Central Region Career Development Officer of the Year

Capt. Sylvia Small (Piedmont), Wing Character Development Instructor

### Wing Commander's Challenge Coin (Numbered)

- #1 Lt. Col. Craig Goodrich (Rapid City), Wing Director of Operations
- #2 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Rachel Kuecker (Rapid City), South Dakota Wing Administrator
- #3 Maj. Karla West (Brandon), South Dakota Wing Director of Administration
- #4 Lt. Col. Gary Rae (Harrisburg), South Dakota Wing Chaplain
- #5 C/1<sup>st</sup> Lt Kyle Clement (Sioux Falls), Sioux Falls Composite Squadron
- #6 Maj. Nick Gengler (Beresford), South Dakota Wing Chief of Staff
- #7 C/2d Lt Jaden Peterson (Brookings), Big Sioux Composite Squadron

Congratulations to the first five individuals to be inducted into the newly created South Dakota Wing Hall of Fame! These five have all had a major impact on South Dakota Wing and the Civil Air Patrol. The induction ceremony was held during the luncheon at the annual South Dakota Wing Conference on 22 April 2017 at the Arrowwood Resort and Conference Center at Cedar Shore in Oacoma, SD.

- Col. Mary Donley was inducted in the category "Contributing Member". Her contributions to CAP as a cadet, a senior member, as a former Wing Commander, as a mentor to past, present and future SDWG and CAP leaders, and all the things this nearly 50-year member continues to do have helped, help and will continue to help make our organization successful.
- South Dakota U.S. Senator Mike Rounds was inducted in the category of "Service to the Nation". He learned how to fly while he was a CAP cadet in Pierre. He was also an International Air Exchange Cadet, a very high CAP cadet honor. He has also been an advocate of aviation and a strong defense. As a Senator, he is a member of the Congressional Squadron and has been a great friend and supporter of the Civil Air Patrol and the SDWG.
- Civil Air Patrol World War II veteran Vernon Jeffries was inducted in the "Excellence in Aviation" category for his flying for CAP during WWII and his other aviation related activities. Vernon is a recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal awarded to the patriotic men and women who unselfishly answered the call to help protect our homeland during a dark period in our nation's history.
- Lt Col Thomas Roberts Jr. was inducted into the "Service to the State" category. Roberts was appointed the first commander of the South Dakota Wing of the Civil Air Patrol in December 1941. He created the wing from scratch, formed it, nurtured it and led it throughout World War II. Lt. Col. Roberts is a recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal awarded to the patriotic men and women who unselfishly answered the call to help protect our homeland during a dark period in our nation's history.
- Lt. Col. Lois Schmidt was inducted into the "Founding Member" category. She joined CAP as a 16-year old cadet in 1943 during World War II. Lois is a recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal awarded to the patriotic men and women who unselfishly answered the call to help protect our homeland during a dark period in our nation's history. She continues on active Civil Air Patrol service as a member of the Pierre Composite squadron.

# $\star$ ★ RACHEL'S BULLETIN BOARD $\star$ ★



Welcome to the volunteers page. This page is designed *for you* and your events outside of CAP and to get to know each other better. This page got its start from other volunteers/members like you. We want to know more about you outside of CAP, to celebrate those milestones and events in your life that we often don't know about. This is only the beginning. I know there is more to celebrate! It will require your help and input, but I know you all have something going on in your lives worth sharing or celebrating. *Disclaimer: This page is for fun only – it is not meant to embarrass or single anyone out. Please let me know if you have any questions at all.* 



\* Thanks to all the moms out there who support CAP and their children in CAP.



\* Jason Erickson and family on the death of Kenny Theisen on April 7, 2017(Jason's Step-Father in law)



- \* Devon Brown has taken his oath for the United States Navy.
  - \* Rachel Kuecker got a clear cat scan and is cancer free.



- \* How many Squadrons does South Dakota Wing have? What are their names and nick names? (Must answer both parts to win)
  - Congrats to John Seten who won last month's trivia.



Ask the Commander

\* How much time do you spend in DC? How does it help the SD Wing?

The answer is that I spend about 4 days per year in Washington DC. There is the winter Command Council meeting for CAP leadership which includes wing commanders. As part of this annual event, typically in February, we visit our representatives. I was able to meet Senator Rounds, who was a cadet when he was a teenager in Pierre, as well as Representative Noem who has supported CAP for several years. Unfortunately Senator Thune's schedule precluded a meeting. In 2016, I was fortunate to spend an additional two days in Washington DC as part of the celebration of CAP's 75th anniversary. An event was held at the Smithsonian Air & Space annex by Dulles airport. These Washington DC events are designed to bring CAP to the attention of our legislators who provide approximately half the funding for South Dakota and more than that for CAP as a whole. It is mandatory that wing commanders attend.





## Capt. Kris Bierwirth

- 1. How long have you been in CAP? This is my 10 year anniversary I joined in March 2007.
- 2. What is your favorite thing about being in CAP?

  I enjoy watching how our cadets and senior members have become a family, how our squadron building has become our home and how the other squadrons and wing have become our village. Our organization proves that the African Proverb " it takes a village to raise a child" is true, whether that child is 12 or 112.
- 3. What type of work do you do when not in CAP? My work outside of CAP? Where do you start...Wife, mother, daughter, sister, friend...I know these aren't jobs but they are more fun and rewarding than any job. I work for the State of South Dakota as the Custer County Deputy Clerk of Court
- 4. Do you have any children/pets? I have two children Vicki and Justin who are both CAP members. Two dogs and three shrimp.
- 5. What do you like to do in your spare time/hobbies? In my spare time if I have any... I enjoy crafting, working in my flower garden and on cars and watching the world go by while sitting on my front porch
- 6. Anything else you want to share that helps us know you better?

  I have worn many hats in my life and have many talents. I have gone to school to be a florist and earned a degree in Criminal Justice. I love working on cars and cooking. I was one of the programmers/designers for the healthcare booklets your place of employment gives you. It was an idea, and was only being issued on a trial basis; well that was 29 years ago. It must be working out alright.



\*\* Spotlight an Airport \*\* Your fun facts\*\*

Send me your ideas - want to be our featured volunteer? Do you have a fun trivia or fact to share? Are you graduating soon - high school, college, basic training, etc? Did you get promoted at work, have a baby, get married, become a pilot, celebrate a milestone anniversary (25 years +) etc? Pilots - do you have a favorite South Dakota airport/runway that you want to see spotlighted? Please send me your info to wa@sdcap.us

